

New Hampshire Climate Change Policy Task Force
8th Task Force Meeting

AFW Action 1.2 – Avoid Net Forest Land Conversion

Potential Revised Language

Overall Implementation

- Create a new state initiative to invest public financial resources to protect the carbon storage capacity of New Hampshire forests with perpetual conservation easements.
- Create new incentives for forest land owners to enroll in market certification programs such as the Forest Stewardship Council and the Sustainable Forestry Initiative; this will be critical for access to coming carbon markets.
- State should enroll all of its 200,000 acres in state forests in FSC
- Create a pilot program within the Department of Treasury to test the marketability of forest land leases on privately owned forest land with the primary objective of sustaining and expanding the carbon storage capacity of working forests.
- Create new incentives to forest land owners to manage commercial timber over longer rotations.
- Develop a carbon-friendly model zoning ordinance and provide municipalities with statutory incentives to adopt this ordinance.
- Develop sustainable funding sources for these efforts.